<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated December 11, 2008. Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 17 and 19 to 21 are in the application. Claims 1 and 12 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 19 was objected to for an informality, but this informality has already been attended to, in the Amendment After Final Rejection dated March 11, 2009.

Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 10, 12 to 17, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0120634 (Min), U.S. Publication No. 2003/0081234 (Wiley) and U.S. Publication No. 2003/0191871 (Tohki). Claims 11 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Min, Wiley, Tohki and U.S. Patent No. 5,884,014 (Huttenlocher). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 1 and 12 generally concern processing data in which data of a first encoding format for respective pages is received, wherein a page data management record is generated to manage the data of the first encoding format in association with first encoding information indicating the first encoding format. Data of a second encoding format is generated from the data of the first encoding format, and the page data management record is caused to manage the data of the second encoding format in association with second encoding information indicating the second encoding format.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion in the Advisory Action dated March 24, 2009, independent Claims 1 and 12 have been amended even further, to emphasize the type of management being performed by the page data management record.

In particular, according to one aspect of independent Claims 1 and 12, the page data management record manages the data of the second encoding format in a manner such that the second encoding information is associated with the first encoding information.

For example, in one example embodiment shown in Figure 6 and described in the accompanying text, first and second encoding information are managed together in the "Code" block of the page data management record.

By virtue of this arrangement, it is ordinarily possible to manage plural data formats (e.g., JBIG, JPEG, TIFF) with lower memory consumption, because a single page data management record manages the plural data items of the various formats. Conventionally, separate records are required for each format, as shown in Applicants' Figures. 2A to 2C.

Referring specifically to claim language, independent Claim 1 is directed to a data processing apparatus for processing data for respective pages. The apparatus includes a data reception unit for receiving data of a first encoding format for respective pages. The apparatus also includes a control unit for generating a single page data management record that manages the data of the first encoding format in association with first encoding information indicating the first encoding format. In addition, the apparatus includes a plurality of output processors, each for independently executing a respective output process for data of a predetermined encoding format. The apparatus further includes a data generation unit for generating data of a second encoding format from the data of the first encoding format, wherein the second encoding format is an encoding format used by one of the plurality of output processors. Upon generation of the data of the

second encoding format, the control unit causes the page data management record to manage the data of the second encoding format in association with second encoding information indicating the second encoding format in a manner such that the second encoding information is associated with the first encoding information. The control unit deletes the page data management record if none of the plurality of output processors refers to the page data management record.

Independent Claim 12 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claims 1 and 12, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature of a page data management record which manages data for respective pages in a manner such that first encoding information indicating a first encoding format is associated with second encoding information indicating a second encoding format.

As understood by Applicants, Min is directed to a metadata abstraction interface interposed between multimedia files and applications. The metadata abstraction interface includes metadata decoders for parsing metadata of a multimedia file stored in a native format and rendering the metadata in a generic format for use by applications. See Min, Abstract and paragraphs [0013] and [0014].

The Advisory Action dated March 24, 2009 asserts that Min (paragraphs [0012] and [0013]) discloses generic metadata which corresponds to more than one format.

However, Min's generic metadata is not seen to associate data of different formats of respective pages in association with each other, much less manage data for respective pages in a manner such that first encoding information indicating a first

encoding format is associated with second encoding information indicating a second encoding format.

Wiley, Tohki and Huttenlocher have been reviewed and are not seen to remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Min.

Therefore, independent Claims 1 and 12 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above, and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the claims, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement accompanies this paper. Consideration of the cited art is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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